Jammu – Srinagar NH closed due to snowfall

2567. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of days on which National Highway between Jammu and Srinagar around Banihal tunnel remained closed due to bad weather and snowfall during the period October, 2006 to April 2007, indicating the periods when the highway remained closed for three consecutive days; and

(b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to ensure that the highway remains open throughout the year and by when that target is likely to be achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) National Highway between Jammu and Srinagar around Banihal tunnel never remained closed for three consecutive days during the period from October, 2006 to April, 2007.

(b) The mechanical equipments are kept ready by BRO at various locations to tackle the blockage of road Jammu-Srinagar National Highway -1A. Accordingly, adequate resources have been deployed at all identified slide points along NH-IA. The road is opened for traffic as soon as the land slide/shooting stones stoppage occurs. Generally, not more than three to four hours are taken by the site staff to clear the slide/debries. Since the hill slides have still not been stabilized, remedial measures are being taken up under maintenance works.

CRF funds for MP

†2568. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of funds sanctioned for Madhya Pradesh under the Central Road Fund (CRF) in the year 2006-2007;

(b) the number of proposals regarding the work to be done in Madhya Pradesh under the Central Road Fund which are under consideration; and

(c) whether the above proposals which are under consideration, have been reviewed and what is their present status?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) Accruals against Central Road Fund (CRF) for Madhya Pradesh during 2006-2007 was Rs. 95.62 crores. Based on utilization of funds, an amount of Rs. 83.17 crores was released to Madhya Pradesh during 2006-2007 for CRF works.

(b) and (c) Proposals for 11 numbers of works have been received from Government of Madhya Pradesh under CRF. As against sanctioned works amounting to Rs. 638.74 crore, Rs. 402.22 crore has only been utilized so far by the State Government. Further sanctions can be considered on further utilization of funds on sanctioned works.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.